



AIMS TOOLBOX

This document is intended to provide some thoughts that may be helpful in telling the Air & Space Forces story. Use any or all of it, and feel free to improve it. Please contact the POC with updates and suggestions.

Topic/Title: **Veterans Day Speech**

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Today we gather to recognize and express our gratitude to the brave men and women who have served our country with honor, courage, and sacrifice. Today, we pay tribute to those who have worn the cloth of our nation and who have defended the ideals and freedoms that our forefathers so eloquently recorded in our founding documents.

Because of the dedication and service of our veterans, we enjoy the freedoms and liberties that define our way of life. They fought to protect our democracy, uphold our constitution, and safeguard the rights and freedoms of all Americans. Their selflessness and devotion to duty inspire us all.

Few of these men and women set out to be heroes. Most were ordinary Americans who volunteered to serve when they were needed and responded in extraordinary ways when the time came. They came from different places and joined for different reasons, but whatever their role they know one true thing: that they *made a difference*. As the poet said, in a country where we have no kings and queens, these men and women are the true nobility of our nation.

We must honor our commitment to them by providing access to quality healthcare, education, employment opportunities, and other essential services. It is our duty as a grateful nation to stand by our veterans and their families, just as they have stood by us.

And most important, those of us who are veterans need to tell our stories so that new generations of Americans will be inspired to serve their country and in so doing, *make a difference*.

To all our veterans, both past and present, we say thank you. Thank you for your service, your sacrifice, and your unwavering commitment to our country. May we never forget your bravery, your valor, and your profound contributions to the defense of our nation.